

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY
INFO COMUS JAPAN YOKOTA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 036710

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: PFOR, OEXC, JA

SUBJECT: MULTI-PARTY DIET DELEGATION'S VISIT

REF: DTG 260905L JAN 76, TOKYO 1144

SUMMARY: MULTI-PARTY DIET DELEGATION HAD SATISFACTORY AND
USEFUL DISCUSSIONS WITH ADMINISTRATION AND CONGRESSIONAL

LEADERS IN WASHINGTON. DEPARTMENT WILL BE WORKING TO EN-
SURE THAT THERE IS AN EFFECTIVE AMERICAN HOST ORGANIZATION
FOR THIS WORTHWHILE EXCHANGE PROGRAM FOR YOUNGER DIETMEN
AND POLITICAL LEADERS.

1. MULTI-PARTY DIET DELEGATION, LED BY LDP'S MIZUNO, MET
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WITH VICE PRESIDENT ROCKEFELLOR, DEPUTY SECRETARY INGERSOLL,

ACDA DIRECTOR IKLE (SEPTTEL), ASSISTANT SECRETARY HABIB AND DOD/ISA ACTING ASSISTANT SECRETARY JORDAN. BRIEF COURTESY CALL ON VICE PRESIDENT STRETCHED INTO 45 MINUTE MEETING. IN ADDITION, GROUP MET WITH HOUSE SPEAKER ALBERT, CONGRESSMEN, BROOKING INSTITUTE AND OTHERS WHILE IN WASHINGTON FEB. 8-11. BEFORE COMING TO WASHINGTON, THE DELEGATION MET WITH POLITICAL AND BUSINESS LEADERS IN NEW YORK AND VISITED NEW HAMPSHIRE

TO OBSERVE CAMPAIGN FOR THE PRIMARY ELECTION.

3. IN MEETINGS WITH DEPUTY SECRETARY AND HABIB, MIZUNO STATED THAT THIS EXCHANGE PROGRAM HAS TAKEN FIRM ROOT IN JAPAN AND WAS WIDELY ENDORSED AS USEFUL MEANS OF EXPOSING YOUNGER JAPANESE DIETMEN AND POLITICAL LEADERS FROM ALL PARTIES (EXCEPT JCP) TO THEIR AMERICAN COUNTERPARTS. HE EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT USG WOULD CONTINUE TO RECEIVE SUCH DELEGATIONS AND SEND SIMILAR GROUPS TO JAPAN. INGERSOLL STRONGLY ENDORSED SUCH EXCHANGES AND ASSURED DELEGATION OF OUR CONTINUED INTEREST AND SUPPORT, AS DID HABIB.

4. THE DISCUSSION WITH HABIB FOCUSED ON US-JAPAN RELATIONS, KOREA AND CHINA, AND PROVIDED OPPORTUNITY TO DESCRIBE BASIC US POLICY OBJECTIVES. HABIB ALSO PRESENTED RATIONALE FOR OUR POLICY TOWARD NORTH KOREA, CORRECTING MISUNDERSTANDING (EXPRESSED BY HATA) THAT US WAS UNCOMPROMISINGLY OPPOSED TO ANY DEALINGS WITH DPRK.

5. AT DOD, DELEGATION DEVOTED MUCH TIME TO DETENTE AND TO SECDEF'S ANNUAL DEFENSE REPORT AND ITS IMPLICATIONS FOR JAPAN. ON DETENTE, THEY SEEMED TO BE WORRIED THAT AMERICAN PUBLIC PERCEPTIONS OF DETENTE LACKED REALISM. DELEGATION MADE DETAILED EXEGESIS OF SPECIFIC QUOTES IN THE OPENING SECTION OF DEFENSE REPORT WITH IMPLICATION THAT USG APPEARS TO BE PRESSURING JAPAN INTO AN EXPANDED SECURITY ROLE. DOD OFFICIALS RESTATED US POSITION (VIS. WE ARE CONCERNED ONLY THAT JAPAN SHOULD BE ABLE TO PERFORM ITS SELF DEFENSE FUNCTIONS WELL.), AND SOUGHT TO PUT SPECIFIC QUOTES IN PERSPECTIVE. FYI: DOD CONFIDENTIAL

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WAS SOMEWHAT SURPRISED BY DELEGATION'S DESCRIPTION OF CONTINUING INTENSE PUBLIC DISCUSSION IN JAPAN OF SECDEF'S ANNUAL DEFENSE REPORT. END FYI

6. DURING VISIT, HATA MADE POINT OF CONVEYING JSP'S SATISFACTION WITH EDA DELEGATION VISIT LAST SUMMER AND APPRECIATION FOR WARM RECEPTION EXTENDED TO EDA.

7. COMMENT: DESPITE BREAK OF LOCKHEED AFFAIR ON EVE OF VISIT, THE DELEGATION WAS NOT DIVERTED FROM ITS ORIGINAL (AND LESS SENSATIONAL) PURPOSES, AND DEPT COWSIDERS VISIT TO HAVE BEEN VERY USEFUL.

8. ARRANGEMENTS FOR VISIT WERE HANDLED BY JAPAN CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE (JCIE). ALTHOUGH THE AMERICAN COUNCIL FOR YOUNG POLITICAL LEADERS (ACYPL) DID NOT ACT AS THE HOST FOR THIS VISIT, INDIVIDUAL ACYPL

MEMBERS DID ASSIST JCIE IN MAKING ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE NEW YORK AND NEW HAMPSHIRE PORTION OF SCHEDULE. DEPT IS CONCERNED BY ACYPL'S CURRENT ORGANIZATIONAL DIFFICULTIES AND WILL BE WORKING TO ENSURE THAT AN EFFECTIVE US HOST ORGANIZATION IS AVAILABLE TO CONTINUE THIS WORTHWHILE PROGRAM. KISSINGER

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